CLAIMS

1. A method for making snow over a range of ambient temperatures, the method comprising:

discharging a supply of pressurized water in ambient air;

discharging a supply of pressurized air into the discharged supply of pressurized water; and

controlling at least one of the discharge of the supply of pressurized water and the discharge of the supply of pressurized air to control a ratio of water to air.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the controlling is based on ambient temperature.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the controlling comprises selecting among a plurality of fluid discharge nozzles.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the controlling comprises selecting among a plurality of discharge nozzles using a control mechanism.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the control mechanism is operable to at least one of increase the ratio and decrease the ratio.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the controlling comprises selecting among a plurality of discharge nozzles using a control mechanism operably controlled by a control unit.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the plurality of discharge nozzles is elevated above the ground and the control unit is located adjacent to the ground.

Sub Q2

8. A method for making snow, the method comprising:

providing a discharge unit having a plurality of discharge nozzles; and

controlling discharge of a supply of pressurized water and a supply of pressurized air from the plurality of discharge nozzles.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the controlling comprises controlling a ratio of water to air discharged from the discharge unit.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the controlling comprises selecting among the plurality of discharge nozzles to control the ratio of water to air discharged from the discharge unit.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the selecting among the plurality of discharge nozzles comprises selecting among the plurality of discharge nozzles using a control mechanism.

Sub Q3

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the selecting among the plurality of discharge nozzles comprises turning a handle of a control unit operably connected to the control mechanism among a plurality of positions to cause the discharge of water from at least one water discharge nozzle of the plurality of discharge nozzles and the discharge of air from at least one air discharge nozzle of the plurality of discharge nozzles.

13. A device for making snow, said device comprising:

a discharge unit having a plurality of discharge nozzles; and

a control mechanism for controlling a supply of pressurized water and a supply of pressurized air to said plurality of discharge nozzles.

14. The device of claim 13 wherein said plurality of fluid discharge nozzles comprises at least one water discharge nozzle and at least one air discharge nozzle.

Sub A4

15. The device of claim 13 wherein said control mechanism comprises a plurality of valves for selecting among said plurality of fluid discharge nozzles.

16. The device of claim 13 further comprising a fluid conduit for providing the supply of pressurized water and the supply of pressurized air to said plurality of discharge nozzles.

17. The device of claim 16 wherein said fluid conduit comprises at least one air conduit and at least one water conduit.

18. The device of claim 16 wherein said fluid conduit comprises an inner conduit and an outer conduit.

19. The device of claim 18 wherein said inner conduit comprises an air conduit and said outer conduit comprises a water conduit.

Sub A5

20. The device of claim 16 wherein said fluid conduit defines a tower upon which said discharge unit is elevated above the ground.

21. The device of claim 20 further comprising a control unit attached to a lower end of said tower for operably controlling said control mechanism.

Sub a6

22. The device of claim 13 wherein said plurality of fluid discharge nozzles is arranged circumferentially on said discharge member.

23. The device of claim 13 wherein at least one fluid discharge nozzle of said plurality of fluid discharge nozzles is operatively connected to said control mechanism and at least one second fluid discharge nozzle of said plurality of fluid discharge nozzles is in direct fluid communication with a source of fluid.

24. The device of claim 13 further comprising a controller to control said control mechanism based on the ambient temperature.

25. The device of claim 24 further comprising a temperature sensor for determining ambient temperature.

add a7

* * * * *